

American Fire Sprinkler Association

9696 Skillman, Suite 300, Lock Box 37 • Dallas, Texas 75243 • 214.349.5965 • Fax: 214.343.8898 • www.sprinklernet.org

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August 1, 2004

The Honorable John B. Larson U. S. House of Representatives 1005 LHOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Larson:

Recent fires in nursing homes have shown how vulnerable to fire are the aged and infirm. Modern building codes require nursing homes to provide the protection of automatic fire sprinklers. But many nursing homes do not have to comply with current requirements because they were built before requirements were in place—they were "grandfathered."

It is for this reason we were excited to see the introduction of your legislation, HR 4967, the "Nursing Home Fire Safety Act of 2004." Targeting a need that has been highlighted by recent tragedies, this legislation provides a method and a timetable to eliminate this serious problem.

The American Fire Sprinkler Association joins other safety-conscious organizations in endorsing HR 4967 and urging swift enactment to save lives and property in America's nursing homes.

Please call on us when we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Steve A. Muncy,

President